

POOL 11 ISLANDS

HABITAT REHABILITATION AND ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

**Pool 11
Upper Mississippi River Miles
583.0 - 592.0**

**Grant County, Wisconsin, and
Dubuque County, Iowa
Rock Island District**



RESOURCE PROBLEM:

Following inundation in 1937, there has been a dramatic decrease in the island landmass in this area. This decrease has led to the loss of both terrestrial and aquatic habitats, protected littoral zones associated with the islands, and protected deep water habitats.

PROJECT FEATURES:

- * Construct islands across the channel from Mud Lake and also in Sunfish Lake;
- * Construct a low level dike at Mud Lake and Sunfish Lake; and
- * Dredge the backwaters in Mud Lake and Sunfish Lake.

PROJECT OUTPUTS:

Island construction will benefit both migratory waterfowl and the fishery by increasing bathymetric diversity, encouraging aquatic vegetation growth in shadow areas, providing nesting habitat, and reducing wind fetch and resuspension of sediments. Backwater dredging will increase habitat diversity and create off-channel fishery and overwintering habitat.

FINANCIAL DATA:

General design costs are estimated at \$2,783,000 and construction costs are estimated at \$12,453,000. Annual costs for operation, maintenance, and repair are estimated at \$10,000, and will be the responsibility of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Wisconsin and Iowa Departments of Natural Resources are the non-Federal project sponsors. Because the project is on all federal lands, project costs will be 100% federal.

STATUS:

A final Definite Project Report is scheduled for approval in July 2001. The island component of this project is deferred based on the results of the biological assessment. It has been determined that construction of the island component may affect an endangered species (Higgins' eye pearly mussels). Further bathymetric survey and mussel sampling may allow island creation in the future.